

ISSUE NO 2

DATE: 14th February 2013

THE GARDENS SCHOOL BULLETIN



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Wednesday 20th
February**

BOT Meeting
7.00pm

**Wednesday 27th
February**

Meet the Teacher
Interviews

Friday 1st March

Whole School
Assembly 2pm,
all welcome

HELLO FROM THE PRINCIPAL!

Dear Parents,

It would appear that our building work is to commence next week with the Tui and Pukeko blocks getting the first bit of attention. As earlier discussed, this will have some impact on our school carpark and drop off, so watch out for small people!

Thanks to our new road patrollers who have begun manning the pedestrian crossing in the morning, before school and also in the afternoon. It is essential that ALL children cross the road in the correct spot.

If parents are late to collect children, we have instructed the children to come back to the school office. This will mean that if your planned collection point is somewhere else and you are held up or stuck in traffic, you can be assured your children are in a safe place and being looked after. We will attempt to contact you when the children arrive in the office, so you know where they are.

Our school uniform is very important to us and we monitor what is being worn and that children are meeting the expected uniform standard. Please help your child but ensuring they have the correct items and that the items are clearly named. We will return uniform items to your children, once their name is found.

The Telecom Foundation have commenced a fundraising for program for schools and our school has registered. We are in the early stages of finding out how this works and getting Mrs Loakman trained up as our Givealittle Guru. Keep an eye out for more information as it comes to hand.....

Mrs Bull has been working with a group of students in our school who speak more than one language and training them up to be 'linguists' to support new students whose first language is not English. Check out the information display on the pinboard in the main admin. Well done, Mrs Bull.

SUSANNAH FOWLER, PRINCIPAL

CONTACT INFORMATION:

It is vital that we have your most up to date contact information. We ask that ALL parents and caregivers take a few minutes to complete the confidential contact details form by using the following electronic link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TheGardensSchool>

If you do not have internet access, please contact the school office directly.

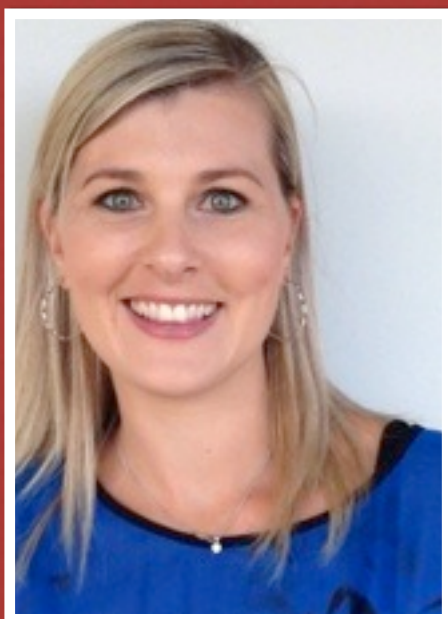
NEW FACES AT THE GARDENS SCHOOL



Miss Hayley Williams - Year 3/4



Mrs Karen Vincent - Year 2



Mrs Kim Murray - Year 7/8



Mr Samuel Kett - Year 7/8



Mrs Karen Davies - Year 5/6

We are pleased to welcome several new teachers this year! Along with the new faces on this page, we also welcome back Mrs Lisa Lunjevich, who worked with us a number of years ago before having her children and has joined the teaching team with Mrs Kent, in Weka 3 this year.

A BIG THANK YOU!!!

To Ritchie Gray for his help in getting the new staffroom kitchen installed. We greatly appreciate your help!!

GENERAL NOTICES:

HEALTH INFORMATION:

We are currently updating health information for students who we know have health/medical needs e.g. allergies/asthma. If your child has health information that the school does not already know about, please contact Sepa Tala'imanu with specific details relating to your child's health needs e.g. severity, medication required etc, sepat@thegardens.school.nz

LUNCHES:

A reminder that Kidz Cafe lunches are only available from Wednesday to Friday and **MUST** be pre-ordered before school. There is no option to purchase food at lunchtime.
All lunch orders - including pizza orders on Tuesdays - must be made **BEFORE** 8.50am.

BIKES AND SCOOTERS:

Our school runs a "license" system for children who wish to bike or scooter to school. At this stage, bike licenses are offered to students in Years 4-8, bike storage is currently available behind the hall and behind the Kea building. Due to limited storage at this time, scooter licenses are only available to students in Years 4-6 (our Year 3 students will participate in Scoot-Skills training this year and following these sessions, will also be able to scooter to school). If your child wishes to take up the option of riding their bike or scooter to school they will need a signed permission slip (these can be collected from the Senior Management office). When the permission slip is returned they will be issued with a black "Ride with Pride" band - this is their official license to bike or scooter to school.

HATS and SHOES:

A number of students are still without school hats. Hats are compulsory in Term 1 and Term 4. Please make sure your child has their named school hat with them every day. In Term 1, students have the option of wearing **plain black sandals** or alternatively **plain black shoes** with black or white ankle socks (Y7/8 boys must wear the knee high intermediate socks). School shoes should be a sturdy shoe, appropriate for school, not a "fashion" shoe or slip on shoe. Sandals must have a strap across the back and should be worn correctly.

PE GEAR:

It is expected that our school PE uniform is worn for all PE classes, fitness sessions and sports activities. Please ensure PE gear is clearly named. PE gear should not be worn to or from school.

MATHLETICS:

Our school participates in the Mathletics programme, an online resource for mathematics. All students are required to have a Mathletics account, as it forms an integral part of our mathematics programme, both in school and for homework. This week your child will be issued with their username and password for Mathletics. Please see the attached information pages on how you can register for parent access to your child's Mathletics account. Over the next couple of weeks, teachers will be testing and grouping children for mathematics and their set courses in Mathletics are likely to change. Please see your child's classroom teacher with any questions about Mathletics.

CELL PHONES:

It is not expected that students would need to have cell phones at school however, if you require your child to have a phone, it must be handed in to the school office when they arrive at school in the morning and collected at the end of the school day. Other personal devices such as iPods, MP3 players etc, should be left at home. The school takes no responsibility for cell phones or any other personal devices that are brought to school.

SPORTS NOTICES:

TGS Swimming Carnival

Years 5-8

Thurs 28th March at Alfriston Primary School

Keep an eye out for permission slips coming home in Week 3

MPSSA and Counties Swimming Carnivals

If your child is in Years 4-8 and is interested in competing at the inter-school swimming competitions this year, please contact Miss Griffin tanyag@thegardens.school.nz

MPSSA (Year 4-6) Tuesday 5th March

Counties (Year 7/8) Friday 15th March

NZ Cup and Shield Cricket

The boys team has now been selected. Their first game is against Reremoana on Wed 20th February at War Memorial Park, Manurewa. Boys training times TBA. Girls Training Tuesday and Thursday at lunchtime.

WATERPOLO Y7/8 ONLY

If your intermediate child is interested in playing waterpolo, Mountfort Park Waterpolo Club are offering free lessons for TGS students in February. Lessons start at 8am at Manurewa Aquatic Centre, Sykes Rd. If we get enough interest we will be starting a school water polo team to play on some Saturdays, 3-6pm, from February through to May 2013.

ORIENTEERING

School sprint series 2013

- Each event is individual (not teams)
- You can enter any one of the 6 events
- There is no cost for entry
- Events start from 4pm till 5pm
- You must pre enter on the Friday before the event

Dates are: February 18 Papatoetoe High, 25 Wesley College, March 4 Tuakau College, 11 Rosehill College, 18 Waiuku College, 25 Manurewa High. If you are interested, contact [Miss Griffin](#) for further information.

ULTRA RIP Y7/8

CMRFU will be taking sessions for our Year 7/8's on Thursdays for the next 4 weeks. A team will be picked for the Counties Tournament on Tuesday 9th April.

Ki O Rahi Y5/6

Counties Manukau Primary Sport will be hosting a Yr 5 & 6 invitational Ki O Rahi Tournament on Tuesday 26th Feb (save day Thursday 28th Feb) at Finlayson Ave Reserve, Finlayson Ave, Clendon. Trials will take place Week 2 and 3, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Ladies ONLY, Beginner Fitness Sessions at Totara Park, FREE Week Trial for The Gardens Mums – normally \$49. Contact: Matthew Willoughby, 021-022-17130 matthew@fit4ladies.co.nz www.fit4ladies.co.nz



Before and After School Care programmes are held daily here at The Gardens School. All enquires to Trish Le Prou MOB 0275180077 or alecas@xtra.co.nz



Dear Parent or Guardian

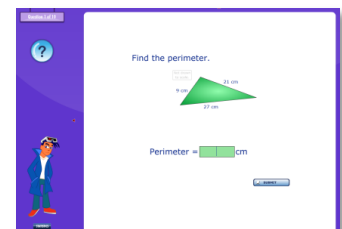
Your child's class is currently using Mathletics. Mathletics is New Zealand's leading online resource for Maths. It's the next generation in learning, helping students enjoy Maths and achieve outstanding results.

About Mathletics

Your child has 24 hour access to Mathletics. By using their unique username and password your child can access the Mathletics website at www.mathletics.co.nz, or through the Mathletics apps for iPads or Samsung tablets. Your child has access to:

Interactive Curriculum Activities

- ✓ Adaptive activities that respond to your child's needs
- ✓ Instant marking and feedback
- ✓ Animated support that guides students through concepts
- ✓ Activity sets can be repeated with different questions so practice rather than memorisation reinforces understanding
- ✓ Plus lots more!



Live Mathletics Game Engine

- ✓ Exciting real time challenges with students all over New Zealand – and the world!
- ✓ Amazing for developing basic maths skills



Free Parent Access!

You can register for free parent access so you can view your child's progress and certificates.

- Visit www.mathletics.co.nz/parent
- Fill in the required fields and submit
- Record your new username and password

Student Sign In Details	
Username	<input type="text"/>
Password	<input type="password"/>
Parent details	
First Name	<input type="text"/>
Surname	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>
Confirm Email	<input type="text"/>
Country	--- Select Country --- <input type="button" value="v"/>

Each student's Mathletics account holds information relating to individual results and progress.

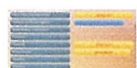
Please ensure that your child is the only one to access and use their account.

How you can help your child love learning with Mathletics

To gain the greatest understanding of how Mathletics can benefit your child, we encourage you to spend time looking at Mathletics with them. You could also set them two or three goals each week to provide some focus, and then celebrate their achievements at the end of each week. Check out the ideas below for some inspiration.



Complete homework tasks set by the teacher



Work on "blue bar or medal" activities yet to be mastered. Complete each activity at least three times or until mastery is achieved. You will be asked different questions each time you repeat an activity.



Use the Support Centre to view worked examples, which will help you to improve your understanding of concepts you are yet to master.



Improve your speed and accuracy with basic operations by attempting bonus levels on Live Mathletics, and earn credits when you beat your personal best. Just 10 minutes at the beginning or end of each session on Mathletics is all it takes.



Widen your bank of strategies and expand mathematical knowledge by:



- ✓ looking up terms in the Concept Search tool. You can minimise this window to come back to it if you get stuck on a word or concept when completing practice activities or tasks.
- ✓ Exploring Problem Solving activities and Rainforest Maths (Primary) and eBooks, Interactives, and Videos(Secondary)



Earn a Participation Certificate every week by earning at least 1000 points between Monday and Sunday. Aim for a gold certificate by working consistently for at least 20 weeks.

You will need Adobe Flash Player v.10.3.x.x or later for Mathletics to work on your computers. If you need to update your Adobe Flash player please delete your Temporary Internet Files afterwards. If you have any questions please email customerservice@3plearning.co.nz or phone 0800 3P LEARN (0800 375 327).

The NZ Mathletics Education Team